EDITOR’S NOTE: Our apologies for not posting yesterday - we were without power most of the morning, but all's well now (so far, anyway...).

- Westcott pays tribute to “the most inventive, dogged, and systematically intelligent member” of the Metabolist movement.
- Chaban digs deep into what happened to the high hopes for Obama’s urban agenda: “Even the administration’s staunchest supporters struggle to find much to brag about.”
- Berg tools around Vancouver with the city’s now-ousted planning director who, though the odds were against him from the start, remains optimistic.
- Architectural historian Massey explores how the housing crisis, OWS, and the 99% personify “the national unease about deepening economic inequality and the waning of the American dream.”
- On a brighter note, Mays is amazed by a housing project for formerly homeless in Toronto “that has been largely shaped by ordinary citizens mobilized on behalf of the public good” that is a lesson in “citizenship and commitment to old-fashioned city-building...it could be social architecture of a high order.”
- DuV tries to find something good to say about a massive new hospital tower that “brutally changes the West Jerusalem horizon” (though he does like the interiors); residents will just “have to get used to it,” say the architect.
- A zoning mandate to include arts spaces in Washington, DC’s downtown office buildings sounds good on paper, but it’s more like a “shotgun marriage” with property managers seeing it as a “poison pill,” and the arts scene often hard to find.
- Krier decries Gehry’s Eisenhower Memorial (what took him so long?): Modernism is “a theory that has been brain-dead for half a century,” and the “Gehry style is a century old; it seems ‘innovative’ only to the ignorant” (and so it goes...).
- OMA’s plan for a Venice palazzo on the Grand Canal has preservationists up in arms.
- A study shows the Battersea Power Station is worse now more dead and flattened than alive.
- A fascinating reassessment of Arcosanti; the new director’s first job is “to remind the world that it exists as a going concern” and not just “a historical curiosity”; has it lived up to its potential? “No. Don’t be silly,” Soleri said, and then laughed.
- New research shows increased injury rates on LEED projects, and offers suggestions to mitigate some (though we’re a bit confused by “perceived” risk percentages).
- Abu Dhabi approves new Yas Island master plan for a waterfront community of up to 55,000: “good ‘walkability’ is a key factor in the design.”
- A jury picks Foster for Patna Museum project in India, but the government is “reluctant to proceed because of the size of the architect’s fee”; the contract might go to Maki, who placed second.
- The 7th Annual Palm Springs Modernism Week kicks off today (wish we could be there!).
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New Research Reveals the Safety Hazards of Green Building: When Matthew Hallowell...at the University of Colorado Boulder, became aware of a study that found evidence of a nearly 50% increase of injury rate had occurred in LEED-certified projects over traditional construction, he found himself wondering about the cause. -- Architectural Record

Abu Dhabi approves new Yas Island masterplan: ...new 680 hectare waterfront community of up to 55,000 inhabitants...communities linked by a comprehensive open space, road, light rapid transport, pedestrian and cycle network to other notable destinations on the island, with good ‘walkability’ a key factor in the design. -- Broadway Malyan- TradeArabia Business News

Indian museum picks Foster + Partners as preferred architect: But the jury and the state government fail to see eye-to-eye on cost of Patna Museum plan...reluctant to proceed...because of the size of the architect's fee. The contract could, therefore, go to the runner-up, Maki & Associates. -- Coop Himmelb(l)au; Snøhetta; Daniel Libeskind- The Art Newspaper (UK)

7th Annual Palm Springs Modernism Week February 16–26: An 11-day celebration of mid-century modern design, architecture and culture. [links to images, info]- Palm Springs Sun

Moby is leaking L.A.'s secrets on his new architecture blog: ...giving away our best secrets...We Angelenos are going to have to teach him why this is strictly against code...please, keep telling your New York friends that it's a vacuous hellhole with no charms. That's how we keep it (relatively) cheap around here. - Los Angeles Times

Call for entries: Considering the Quake: Seismic Design on the Edge: Effie Bouras and Ghyslaine McClure of McGill University, Department of Civil Engineering, are seeking projects and research...for an exhibit at Design Exchange in Toronto Sept/Oct 2012; deadline: June 1 - DX/Design Exchange (Toronto)

INSIGHT: Bringing Art to the Streets without Breaking the Bank: An architect explains how he used innovative materials and a close-knit alliance of stakeholders to create an economical yet artful amenity for a city’s public transit passengers. By Walter Geiger, AIA, FARA- ArchNewsNow

Richard Meier & Partners x 2: Villa Gardone, Gardone Riviera, Italy + Mitikah Office Tower, Mexico City